

Art Unit: ***

CLMPTO

WAB

12/20/04

Claims 1 thru 19 were canceled.

20 (Currently Amended). A portable flotation platform for supporting a load above the level of a body of water, the platform comprising:

a deck of overall density less than that of water and presenting a generally planar upper surface for the load, with the deck, when deployed in the body of water, being supported adjacent the surface of the water by the buoyant force of the deck in the water for supporting the load carried on the deck;

an anchor device which when deployed in the body of water and connected to the deck is engageable with a bottom of the body of water for holding the deck against horizontal movement;

the deck having at least one connector for detachably securing the deck to the anchor device for vertical movement of the deck in the water relative to the anchor; and

a pack adapted to receive and releaseably hold [secure] the deck and having a carrying attachment on the pack for enabling the user to carry the deck via the pack to a point of deployment.

21 (Currently Amended). The portable flotation platform of claim 20 wherein the pack comprises a bag having an opening at [its upper] an end thereof to receive the deck and the carrying attachment comprises a pair of shoulder straps on the bag.

22 (Currently Amended). The portable flotation platform of claim 20 wherein the pack comprises a bag having an opening at [its upper] an end thereof to receive the deck and the carrying attachment comprises a handle on the bag.